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BIGGLESWADE RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1952

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

and

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

B I G G L E S W A D E R U R A L D I S T R I C T.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1952.

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:
C.A. HARVEY, M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:
H.W. PRIDMORE, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.,
as Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Foods Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

(a) P.E. Miller, M.R.S.I.,

(b) J.E. Criddle, M.S.I.A.,

(c) K.D. Ballard - General Assistant.
(Resigned August, 1952.)

Clerks:

(d) Miss D. Anderson (Shorthand Typist)

(e) Miss E. Bristow. (Clerk)

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1952.

(1)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE

BIGGLESWADE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances in your district for 1952.

The vital statistics for the year show that the death rate of 9.1 is the lowest ever recorded in the district, and considerably lower than that for England and Wales. Of the 242 deaths, 114 were due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system and 42 were due to cancer. The infant mortality rate of 25.0 continues to be satisfactory and is lower than that for the country as a whole.

Of the 119 cases of infectious disease notified, there were 62 cases of Measles and 22 of Whooping Cough. No cases of Diphtheria or Poliomyelitis were notified.

It is necessary to stress once more the urgency of an adequate sewage disposal system for the more populous parishes, particularly Shefford, Clifton, Henlow and Langford. With the continued increase in the number of new houses with modern sanitation the question of the disposal of sewage becomes increasingly greater. The construction of a large number of small disposal units is not the answer, and the only satisfactory solution is a complete unit for the parishes mentioned.

I should like to express my thanks to the officials of the Council and the staff for their continued help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C.A. HARVEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres).....	49,152
Registrar-General's estimate of Population....	26,920
Number of inhabited houses end of 1952.....	6,666
Rateable Value	£105,893.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£423. 6. 11d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

LIVE BIRTHS.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate.....	172	168	340
Illegitimate.....	11	9	20
	183	177	360

Birth rate per 1,000 Home Population	13.4
Birth Rate for England and Wales.....	15.3

STILL BIRTHS.	Males	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	7	1	8
Illegitimate.....	1	-	1
	8	1	9

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Births	24.4
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales.	22.6

DEATHS:	Males.	Females.	Total.
All causes.....	134	108	242

Death Rate per 1,000 Home Population.....	9.1
Death Rate for England and Wales.....	11.3

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child birth:

From Sepsis.....	0
From other causes.....	0
	0

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	3	6	9
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-
	3	6	9

Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births 25.0
Rate for England and Wales..... 27.6

DEATHS FROM:-

Measles (all ages)	-
Whooping Cough	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-
Influenza	-
Cancer (all ages)	42

STATISTICAL TABLE 1943 - 1952.

	DEATH RATE		BIRTH RATE		INFANT MORTALITY RATE.	
Year	Biggleswade R.D.	England & Wales.	Biggleswade R.D.	England & Wales.	Biggleswade R.D.	England & Wales.
1943	11.4	12.1	15.7	16.5	19.5	49
1944	11.2	11.6	18.3	17.6	47.0	46
1945	11.6	11.4	16.8	16.1	40.0	46
1946	12.8	11.5	17.0	19.1	40.0	43
1947	12.4	12.0	21.0	20.5	22.9	41
1948	10.8	10.8	16.86	17.9	29.18	34
1949	9.7	11.7	16.4	16.7	10.9	32
1950	10.2	11.7	15.0	15.8	20.5	29
1951	8.7	12.5	11.7	15.5	28.6	29.6
1952	9.1	11.3	13.4	15.3	25.0	27.6

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The following table shows causes of death as given in the Registrar-General's statistics:

	Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
	All Causes	134	108.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	1	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	1	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	11	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	12	11
15.	Leukaemia, aleumnemia	-	1
16.	Diabetes	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	16
18.	Coronary disease, angina	22	14
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
20.	Other heart disease	30	26
21.	Other circulatory disease	2	5
22.	Influenza	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	1	4
24.	Bronchitis	3	1
25.	Other disease of respiratory system	2	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	2	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	16
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	3	-
34.	All other accidents	3	1
35.	Suicide	3	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES:

1. Laboratory Facilities.

The services of the Public Health Laboratory Department of Pathology, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, is available for the examination of any material submitted by the Health Department or by General Practitioners. This service is under the direction of the Medical Research Council through the Ministry of Health, and there is no charge to the Council. The Laboratory undertakes the examination of throat swabs, sputum, urine and faeces, and blood from cases of suspected infectious disease, and advice and assistance is always available.

A similar service is now available at the Public Health Laboratory which has been established at the Bedford General Hospital (North Wing), Bedford.

2. Ambulance Facilities.

The Bedfordshire County Council provides a complete service covering the whole of the County. The service is a twenty-four hour one and is free of charge, and is available for the removal of all cases requiring admission to hospital and also for the transport of patients who are unable to use other means of transport to and from Hospitals or Clinics, so that they can receive any necessary treatment. The request for the provision of an ambulance must be made by a General Practitioner or by an Authorised Person.

The service is also available for transport of persons suffering from infectious disease to isolation hospital.

The following depots are situated in the eastern and northern districts of the County:-

Biggleswade ...	Crab Lane ...	Tel. Biggleswade	2295.
Bedford ...	Dents Road	Bedford	5335 & 5336.

3. Midwifery and Domociliary Nursing Services.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council became the responsible authority for these services, the day to day administration being under the Eastern Divisional Health Committee.

The following is a list of the nurses and their districts:

Midwifery and Domociliary Nursing Services (Cont.)

District.	Name and Address of Nurse.	Tel. No.
Sandy Tempsford Blunham Mogerhanger.	Miss H.W. Pearse, 68, St. Neots Rd., Sandy.	Sandy 105
Biggleswade Edworth Dunton (Midwifery only.)	Miss M.P. Stafford, 17, Saffron Rd., Biggleswade.	Biggleswade 3266.
Everton Potton Sutton Wrestlingworth Cockayne Hatley Eyeworth.	Miss F.C. Bishop, Post Office, Sutton.	Potton 209.
Biggleswade Edworth Dunton (General Nursing only.)	Miss E. Dillistone, 2, High Street, Biggleswade.	Biggleswade 3177
Southill Old Warden Clifton	Mrs. P.R. Corns, 20, Stanford Rd., Southill.	Shefford 380
Henlow Langford	Miss A.H. Peddie, 31, High Street, Henlow.	Clifton 261
Arlesey	Miss F.M. Foster, 1, Lynton Avenue, Arlesey.	Arlesey 62
Stotfold Astwick	Miss G. Nicholson, The Retreat, Church Road, Stotfold.	Stotfold 208
Shefford Chicksands Campton Meppershall Upper Stondon.	Miss F.E. Wilson, 10, North Bridge Street, Shefford.	Shefford 307

4. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

(a) Child Welfare Centres -

Arlesey	Methodist Schoolroom.	Monday p.m.	Fortnightly.
Biggleswade.	"The Lawns" Health Centre.	Tuesday p.m.	Weekly.
Blunham.	Village Hall	Thursday p.m.	Every four weeks.
Henlow.	R.A.F. Camp.	Thursday p.m.	Weekly.
Potton.	Parish Hall.	Wednesday p.m.	Fortnightly.
Sandy.	Church Room.	Thursday p.m.	Fortnightly.
Shefford.	Methodist Schoolroom.	Wednesday p.m.	Weekly.
Stotfold.	Unionist Club.	Monday p.m.	Fortnightly.
Tempsford.	Stuart Memorial Hall.	Thursday p.m.	Every four weeks.
Langford.	Ivy Leaf Club.	Thursday a.m.	Fortnightly.
Wrestlingworth.	Memorial Hall.	Tuesday p.m.	Fortnightly.

(b) Ante-Natal Clinics -

Biggleswade.	"The Lawns", Health Centre.	Tuesday a.m.	Fortnightly.
Shefford.	Methodist Schoolroom.	Wednesday a.m.	Fortnightly.
Stotfold.	Unionist Club.	Monday a.m.	Fortnightly.

(c) Tuberculosis.

The Chest Clinic,
Bedford General Hospital, (North Wing),
Kimbolton Road,
Bedford.

The days and times of attendance are:-

Monday,	2 p.m. - 7 p.m.	- Refills (A.P. and P.P.)
Tuesday,	9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.	- Women and children - new and old patients.
Wednesday,	9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.	- Contacts. - Old patients - male and female.
Thursday,	9 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.	- Males - old and new patients.
Friday,	9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.	- Refills (A.P. and P.P.) - Special cases.

Clinics and Treatment Centres (Cont.)

(d) Venereal Diseases Clinic -

Bedford General Hospital, South Wing. The days and time of attendance are:-

Men	Monday to Friday	4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Women	Monday and Tuesday	6 p.m.
	Wednesday	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
	Thursday	5 p.m.
	Friday	3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Medical Officer in attendance:-

Wednesday 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Water is supplied to the area by the Biggleswade Water Board and has proved very satisfactory in quality and quantity. Samples have been taken periodically during the year and the results have shown that the supply is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

The following report by the Counties Public Health Laboratories of a sample sent for examination on 4th April, 1952 is typical.

Chemical Examination in parts per Million.

Appearance	Clear and bright.
Colour	Nil
Odour	Nil
Reaction pH. Neutral	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	12
Electric Conductivity at 20 degs. C.	360
Total Solids dried at 180 degs. C.	240
Chlorine present as Chlorides	12
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	170
Hardness. Total	190
Carbonate	170
Non Carbonate	20
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen + ...	0.000
Oxygen Absorbed	0.000
Albuminied Nitrogen + ...	0.000
Residual Chlorine	0.25
Metals	Absent.

+ To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in

1 day at 37 degs. C. ..... 0 per ml.
2 days at 37 degs. C ..... 0 per ml.
3 days at 20 degs. C ..... 0 per ml.

	Present in	Absent From.	Probable Number.
Presumptive Coliform-aerogenes.... Reaction.	Nil	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type 1.)	Nil	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	Nil	100 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance and free from iron and other metals. The water is neutral in reaction, moderately hard in character. It contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

(a) General Statistics.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, together with the number of cases admitted to hospital and the deaths from these diseases.

Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1952.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths registered.
Scarlet Fever	6	-	-
Pneumonia	9	1	-
Poliomyelitis	1	1	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-
Dysentry	12	9	-
Measles	62	2	-
Whooping Cough	22	-	-
Jaundice	3	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	-

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952.

Disease.	Under 1 year.		1 to 3		3 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 15		15 to 25		25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 65		65 and upwards.		Total all ages.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Whooping Cough	2	-	1	1	4	2	3	7	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Measles	1	2	6	6	7	8	20	8	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	2	2	9
Dysentry	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	12
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 6 cases notified, and none were admitted to hospital.

DIPTHERIA.

No cases were notified.

MEASLES.

There were 62 cases notified. Two cases were admitted to hospital from the same home, due to overcrowding.

WHOOPING COUGH.

22 cases were notified.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPTHERIA.

The County Council, under the National Health Service Act, 1946, provides this treatment free of charge through the Family Doctor, or at School or a Child Welfare Centre. The figures have been supplied by the Eastern Divisional Medical Officer.

Numbers of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1952.

Primary Immunisations during 1952.

Born Age at 31.12.52	1952 under 1	1951 1	1950 2	1949 3	1948 4	1942-1947 5 -9	1938-1942 10-14	Total under 15
	127	85	35	13	3	64	18	345

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows the number of new cases, and the number of deaths in their age groups.

Age Distribution of Cases and Deaths.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
35.	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45.	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
55.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	5	2	1	-	-	1	-

Public Health (prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925.

No action was taken under these regulations.

C.A. HARVEY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Council Offices,
Biggleswade.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

FOR THE YEAR 1952.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to present my tenth Annual Report upon the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors.

Once again I am pleased to be able to report progress in the Department - a considerable volume of work having been carried out with the minimum use of Statutory Authority.

Mr. K.D. Ballard was successful in the examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board, and in August secured an appointment as Additional Sanitary Inspector with Ampthill Rural District Council.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS:

Dwellinghouses inspected under the Public Health or Housing Acts	654
Re-inspections and visits to works in progress..	380
Visits to new buildings in course of erection...	253
Visits to Dairies and Milk Distributors.....	20
Visits and inspections of food premises.....	69
Visits re infectious disease.....	11
Number of rooms fumigated after infectious disease.....	7
Miscellaneous visits (including refuse collection and rodent control.).....	1,425

NOTICES SERVED:

55 Intimation Notices or letters in respect of 71 properties were sent and 2 Statutory Notices served.

HOUSING:

One of the most difficult problems a Local Authority has to face today, is that of housing. The question of repair of existing dwellings is one which has caused the Council some concern. On the one hand, there is the shortage of building labour and materials, and on the other "economics". The majority of privately owned dwellings, are let at "controlled" rents, whilst the cost of repairs is continually increasing.

/The

The problem is, of course, a national one and is receiving consideration, but in the meantime, if extensive repairs are necessary, the owner is called upon to bear a heavy financial burden.

During the year, demolition orders have been made in respect of 19 dwellings. In one case - involving a row of 6 houses, the Council is negotiating for the purchase of the site with a view to the erection thereon of bungalows for aged persons.

With the completion of a further 74 houses this year, the total number of dwellings owned by the Council has risen to

Unfortunately, the list of applicants for Council houses increases at a greater rate than the completion of houses, and the total number of applicants at 31st December, 1952 was 946.

NUISANCES:

All complaints of nuisances received during the year have been investigated and dealt with satisfactorily.

The following works were carried out during the year:-

Sanitary improvements (including drainage work).....	61
Nuisances abated	41

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS:

Only 4 cases were found during the year and these were dealt with.

Disinfestation was carried out in each case. Gammexane Smoke Generators being used.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES:

The number of animals slaughtered at the Government Controlled Slaughter House at Arlesey increased considerably during the year.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and inspected and the percentage found to be unfit for food:-

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and lambs.	Pigs.
Number slaughtered	2,588	961	66	4,263	1,978
Number inspected.	2,588	961	66	4,263	1,978
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcases condemned.	5	1	1	20	37
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	471	289	-	283	237
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	18.39	30.17	1.51	7.10	13.85
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcases condemned.	8	15	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	195	214	-	-	81
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	7.84	23.82	1.51	-	4.09

Included in the above figures are:-

1. 7 cases of tubercular udders representing 0.72% of the total number of cows slaughtered and inspected.

/2.

2. 8 cases of Cysticercus Bovis, which is the intermediate or cystic stage of Taenia Saginata, a tapeworm of man.

3. Three cases of suspected swine fever were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. All were confirmed and the necessary precautions taken.

The following weight of meat found to be unfit for human food, was as follows:-

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Beef.	8	17	3	20
Beef Offal.	12	3	1	18
Mutton.		6	1	2
Mutton Offal.		6	3	21
Pork.	1	19	0	16
Pork Offal		8	2	25
Veal			1	5
Veal Offal.				8
	24	2	3	3

MILK:

Effective liason has been maintained with officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and the County Public Health Staff. 25 samples were submitted for examination, 2 of which failed.

ICE CREAM:

7 applications for registration of premises for the sale of Ice Cream were received during the year.

The total number of registrations is now as follows:-

Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream	8
" " " " sale of Ice Cream	49
	57

OTHER FOODS:

Regular visits have been paid to other food shops and as a result, the following food has been found unfit for human consumption:-

334 tins various foods (404¾ lbs.)
560 lbs. prunes.
48 " figs.
9 " bacon.
6 stones herrings.
5 " kippers.
4 " smoked cod fillets.
14 lbs. cheese.

REFUSE COLLECTION & NIGHT SOIL REMOVAL.

Apart from a short period during the winter months, occasional illness among the workmen, and time lost owing to Public Holidays, this work has proceeded smoothly and there have been no serious complaints.

1,776 loads of refuse were removed during the year - the approximate weight being 4,075 tons.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Everton and Stanford.

The work of night soil removal and the emptying of cesspools has continued in a most satisfactory manner throughout the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

The following table shows the work carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator during the year:-

	Type of Property.				
	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses.	Agricul-tural.	All other including business.	Total.
Number of properties inspected.	6	731	21	73	831.
Number of properties inspected found to be infested with rats.	(Major 1 (Minor 5	11 218	9	16	248
Number of properties inspected found to be seriously infested with mice.		2		2	4
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority.	6	231	-	18	255
Number of notices served.			1		
Number of Block Control Schemes carried out.	4				

Note. These figures relate to the number of properties inspected and not to the number of inspections made.

In addition to the above, test baiting of the Council's sewers at Arlesey, Stotfold and Potton was carried out. Evidence of infestation was found in the sewers at Potton and the necessary treatment undertaken.

Month.	ARLESEY. Rainfall.	ARLESEY. Days.	STOTFOLD Rainfall.	STOTFOLD Days.	POTTON. Rainfall.	POTTON. Days.
January	1.23"	12	1.07"	12	1.41"	21
February	0.60"	8	0.50"	7	0.52"	6
March	2.56"	16	2.71"	15	2.65"	18
April	1.55"	12	1.44"	11	1.20"	14
May	2.01"	13	1.87"	13	3.35"	17
June	1.40"	10	1.13"	10	1.52"	13
July	0.37"	3	0.44"	3	0.42"	6
August	3.46"	12	3.15"	12	3.45"	14
September	2.26"	14	2.27"	14	2.31"	18
October	2.20"	14	1.73"	14	1.65"	15
November	3.04"	15	2.74"	14	2.98"	19
December	1.83"	14	1.57"	14	1.91"	21
	22.51"	143	20.62"	139	23.37"	182

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. Inspections -

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Sections, 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	48	87	4	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	90	96	3	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises.)	-	-	-	-
Total.	138	183	7	-

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The Sewage Disposal Works at Arlesey, Stotfold and Potton have again been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

250 yards of sewer in the parish of Arlesey, and referred to in last year's report, have been relaid at a cost of £1,526.

Serious nuisances exist and many ditches are grossly polluted in parishes without sewers. The parishes most urgently in need of a sewerage scheme are Shefford, Henlow, Langford and Clifton, and in spite of many requests to the Ministry for permission to proceed with this scheme, it has not so far been granted.

DITCHES:

During the year 311 chains of ditches have been cleansed at a cost of 14/- per chain. 377 chains have been trimmed at a cost of 5/- per chain.

RAINFALL:

The following table shows the rainfall recorded at the Sewage Disposal Works:-

2. Cases in which defects were found -

	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspec-	
Want of cleanliness.	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding.	Nil				
Unreasonable temperature.	Nil				
Inadequate ventilation.	Nil				
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	6	6	-	1	-

OUTWORK.

Section 110.

Nature of Work.	No. of out. workers in August list required by Sec.110(1)c.	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.
Wearing Apparel	7			

Section 111.

Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Nil.	Nil.

NEW BUILDINGS:

During the year, 179 plans were submitted and approved under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 and the Council's building byelaws.

6 other plans were submitted but not approved.

CIVIL BUILDING LICENSING:

The following table shows the number of Civil Building Licences issued:-

Licences.	Number issued.	Value.
In respect of new private dwellings.	43	£90,926.
In respect of Conversions and adaptations.	16	£16,655.
In respect of Housing repairs.	13	£4,618.
	72	£112,199

LICENCES TO DEAL IN GAME:

Visits and inspections.	4
Number of licences granted.	4

PETROLEUM ACTS:

Number of licences granted	89
Amount of fees received.	£53. 10. 0d.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council, the Clerk and Medical Officer of Health for their consideration and support, and also to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal co-operation.

Yours obedient Servant,

H.W. PRIDMORE.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.